GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:235
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
AIRCRAFT CRASHES
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the aircraft of Airforce crashed during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of people killed/injured in such crashes;

(c) the financial loss suffered by the Government due to such incidents;

(d) whether these air crashes have been investigated by the Government; and

(e) if so, the reasons for the air crashes as per the investigation report and steps taken to correct the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) A total number of 39 aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) have crashed in the accidents since the financial year 2004-2005 to 2007-2008 (till, 7th August, 2007). The details are as follows:

Financial year	No.of aircraft crashed
2004-2005	17
2005-2006	11
2006-2007	09
2007-2008	02 (till 7.8.2007)
Total:	39

(b) A total number of 25 service personnel and civilian were killed and 6 civilian were injured in these accidents.

(c) Besides the loss of aircraft, compensation amounting to Rs.123,80,000/- has also been paid on account of service personnel/civilian killed/injured and loss to the civil property in these accidents.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Every air crash in the IAF is investigated by a Court of Inquiry, As per the Court of Inquiries, the main reasons for aircraft accidents are Human Error and Technical Defect. A continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the IAF to enhance and upgrade flight safety. Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgment and situational awareness of pilots are being pursued. Constant interaction with Original Equipment Manufactures (OEMs), both indigenous and foreign, is also maintained to overcome the technical defects of aircraft. Besides, anti-bird measures are also undertaken.